

60680-1281 (4908REIN)

29. A method of manufacturing a heat shield suitable for use in motor vehicles comprising the steps of:

providing first and second plates, each said plate having an edge region and being at least partially plastically deformable;

providing an insulating material onto said first plate to cover at least a portion of said first plate;

compacting at least a portion of said insulating material; and

connecting said edge region of said first plate to said edge region of said second plate such that said insulating material is positioned between said first and second plate, wherein said insulating material is selected from the group consisting of mica, vermiculite, perlite, expanded graphite or combinations thereof.

49. A heat shield suitable for use in motor vehicles comprising:

a first plate that is at least partially plastically deformable;

a second plate that is at least partially plastically deformable; and

an insulating materials;

wherein said first plate is connected to said second plate and said insulating material is positioned between said first plate and said second plate and is selected from the group consisting of mica, vermiculite, perlite, expanded graphite or combinations thereof.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 29-59 are pending in this application. With this amendment, Applicants have amended claims 29 and 49. No new matter has been added. By action taken here, Applicants in no way intend to surrender any range of equivalents beyond that needed to patentably distinguish the claimed invention as a whole over the prior art. Applicants expressly reserve all such equivalents that may fall in the range between Applicants' literal claim recitations and combinations taught or suggested by the prior art.